

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed November 20, 2008 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 1-20 are rejected. Claims 1, 9, 10 and 16 have been amended. The Applicants present the following for consideration.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schwartz et al, U.S. Patent Publication NO. 2004/0135816 ["Schwartz"]. Claims 10, 11, 15, 16, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Huang et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,966,714 ["Huang"]. Claims 12, 14, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang, in view of Kraenzel et al, U.S. Patent Publication No. 200510198144 ["Kraenzel"]. Claims 13 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang, in view of Lake, U.S. Patent No. 7,200,638. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwartz in view of Kraenzel. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwartz, in view of Lake. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwartz in view of Calder et al, U.S. Patent Publication No. 200110034244 ["Calder"].

With regard to Claim 10, the Office Action states that. Huang teaches "connecting to a network using the communications connection to perform a synchronization [column 5 «lines 17-42»]; receiving an update list from the network containing information to update global address list (GAL) contacts that are unique from a user's personal contacts [column 2 ((lines 27-31» : a change list l column 4 ((lines 5-10» : generating a subset of a large address book] and are

in addition to the user's personal contacts [see Response to arguments I Fig. 3e «steps 347-355»]; updating the GAL contacts [column 4 ((line 62» to column 5 ((line 1» I column 6 «lines 60-64»]; storing the updated GAL contacts in the data store [column 4 «lines 50-54» : memory within the client device]; and displaying the GAL contacts on the display [Figure 1c1]; and when an edit is made to one of the GAL contacts on the device adding the edited GAL contact to the user's personal contacts on the device [see Response to arguments] Fig. 3e «step 353, 354>>] a server including a communications connection, a data store, and a processor that is configured to perform the following actions [Figure 1c «items 127, 102>>] including: obtaining the GAL contacts for the user [column 6 .lines 8-12»]; preparing an update list based on the GAL contacts in the data store on the device and the obtained GAL contacts [column 7 «lines 26-32» I Figure 3e «item 350: preparing the information from the master address book I column 9 dines 63-66]; and providing the GAL contacts to a device over the network [Figure 3e «item 355»] column 9 'lines 63-66].” In response, the Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly define the invention.

As amended, Claim 10 recites in part that “receiving an update list from the network containing information to update global address list (GAL) contacts that are unique from a user’s personal contacts and are in addition to the user’s personal contacts; wherein the GAL contacts are synchronized differently from the user’s personal contacts; and wherein the GAL contacts are visually distinguishable within a contact view from the user’s personal contacts.” Among other differences, the cited references do not teach distinguishing GAL contacts from personal contacts within a display or synchronizing the GAL contacts differently from the user’s personal contacts.

Instead, Huang teaches determining what contacts to include within a personal address book. At col. 4, lines 15-18, Huang states in part that the “The present invention therefore provides an easy-to-use method for generating a default personal address book automatically and an efficient method for keeping a personal address book synchronized with a master database.” Additionally, the contacts stored within the personal address book as taught by Huang displays all of the contacts in the same manner. Still further, there is no difference in the synchronization of GAL contacts that are stored on the device as compared to the user’s personal contacts. Since the cited references do not teach selecting GAL contacts to include on the user’s device that are displayed differently and treated differently from the user’s personal contacts that are already on the device, Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable. Claims depending from Claim 1 are proposed to be allowable as they depend on a valid base claim.

Claim 16, as amended, recites in part “automatically selecting global address list (GAL) contacts for a user that are in addition to a user’s personal contacts on the device and that are unique from the user’s personal contacts from the user’s emails; wherein the GAL contacts on the device are synchronized differently from the user’s personal contacts on the device; and wherein the GAL contacts are visually distinguishable within a contact view on the device from the user’s personal contacts.” For at least this reason, and the reasons presented above, Claim 10 is proposed to be allowable. Claims depending from Claim 16 are proposed to be allowable as they depend on a valid base claim.

With regard to Claim 1, the Office Action recites that Schwartz teaches “automatically selecting global address list (GAL) contacts for a user to include on the device in addition to

user's personal contacts that are already stored on the device [0021: tracking “non-address book message targets”]; removing any duplicates from the GAL contacts to ensure that the GAL contacts are unique from the user's personal contacts [0044: separate list of new recipients - therefore the addresses in the “non-address book” are unique]; preparing the GAL contacts [0044]; and providing the GAL contacts to the device [0044]; wherein the user's personal contacts are treated differently from the provided GAL contacts such that the user's personal contacts are maintained during a synchronization that updates the provided GAL contacts [0044 — the non-address book is updated while the user's personal address book is maintained].” In response, Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the invention.

Claim 1, as amended, recites in part “providing the GAL contacts to the device; wherein the GAL contacts are automatically incorporated with the user's personal contacts and wherein a display of the GAL contacts are visually distinguishable from the user's personal contacts when displayed together within a contact view on the device; wherein the user's personal contacts are treated differently from the provided GAL contacts such that the user's personal contacts are maintained during a synchronization that updates the provided GAL contacts.” Among other differences, Schwartz does not teach automatically incorporating the personal contacts with GAL contacts.

Schwartz is directed at “presenting a shortened list of likely recipients from a full list of previously specified contacts such as from an electronic address book” (paragraph 11). Schwartz teaches obtaining likely recipients but does not teach automatically incorporating GAL contacts with the user's personal contacts. Paragraph 44 of Schwartz recites in part “Recipients entered in

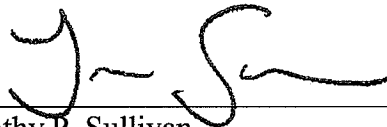
the 'To-textbox'204 that are not in an existing address book or contact list are tracked on a separate list. This separate list is updated when the user specifies a new recipient, rather than selecting one that exists within the MFU or full list. This list of non-address book recipients is monitored and updated to further aide the user in identifying most likely contacts. Recall that the most likely contacts are presented as selectable recipients 212a- 212g in the MFU list 212. MFU list 212 has its origins in the fixed contact FILO list (i.e. list of 250 contacts) and thus the user's address book or contact list. In other words, to be incorporated in the MFU list 212, a potential recipient must first exist in the address book or contact list. Non-address book recipients must thus be added into the address book to facilitate identification as likely recipients. As such, a user is prompted by the present invention to add a non-address book recipient to the address book. The prompt occurs when a user enters a given non-address book recipient for the nth time. In one embodiment of the present invention, a configurable 'n' number of seven is utilized for prompting the user. As a result, the seventh time that a message is addressed to a non-address book recipient, the user will be prompted to add that recipient to the address book.” As can be seen, Schwartz does not incorporate GAL contacts with personal contacts. Instead, Schwartz will not add a recipient to an address book until the user is prompted. Additionally, Schwartz does not display GAL contacts and personal contacts as recited in Claim 1. Since Schwartz, or the other cited references, fail to teach automatically incorporating the personal contacts with GAL contacts, Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable. Claims depending from Claim 1 are proposed to be allowable as they depend on a valid base claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.



Timothy P. Sullivan

Registration No. 47,981

Direct Dial: 206.342.6254

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
206.342.6200

